

The Southeast News

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

VOLUME 5 - NUMBER 12

OCTOBER, 1957

Greetings . . .

Dearly Beloved in the Lord:

We greet you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and in behalf of the United Church of Christ through which we are called to bear witness. Our hearts are still quickened by memories of the Uniting General Synod in Cleveland. The evidences there of God's leading were many and everywhere they nerved men who pray and labor for the unity of Christ's Church. Indelibly written on our hearts are the messages of Christian love and solicitude brought by fraternal delegates of churches from many parts of the world.

We beseech you to take to heart the great opportunities and responsibilities which now are opened unto us with our privilege to reflect in the visible Church a new and greater dimension of the unity with which Christ has endowed us. May you find joy unbounded in your cultivation of fellowship with your brethren of another church heritage. So give yourselves to the mission whereunto Christ has sent us that our oneness with Him and one another may increase from more to more.

In the inevitable complexities of Church order, and the adjustment of practices, differing as much from habit as from conviction, you will find your peace and your hope in the remembrance that it is Christ's Church, unitedly Christ's Church, we serve and against His Church nothing ultimately can prevail. May the fruit of the Spirit abound in you unto the transformation of your life.

Brethren, let your prayers go up without ceasing that God may be pleased to renew us in the United Church of Christ and use us, as He may, to His glory.

Wishing you grace, mercy, and peace, we are

Faithfully yours,

Fred Hoskins

James E. Wagner

Co-Presidents

United Church of Christ

(To be read to the congregations one Sunday during October, 1957)

Churchmen's Fellowship

Have you marked your calendar with a circle around the dates of Nov. 16-17?

This is the date of the Churchmen's Fellowship Workshop and Rally, to be held at Lanett, Ala. All Churchmen (ministers and laymen) of the Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed churches, whether members of lay organizations or not, are invited and urged to attend.

The primary purpose of this Workshop and Rally is to help and inspire the organized fellowships to have bigger and better fellowships; to give those who do not have an organized fellowship an insight into what one can mean to a church. There will be discussions on "How to Start a Fellowship," "How to Keep Rolling," "Programs," "Materials," "Financing," and "Projects" — all under the leadership of Walter A. Graham, director of the C. C. National Laymen's Fellowship, and Kenneth Kohler, executive secretary of the Churchmen's Brotherhood of the E & R churches.

In addition there will be Worship Services, Communion Services, and a sermon on Sunday morning by Superintendent James H. Lightbourne. Plans include time for recreation, too, with music and songs, movies, good food and lots of fun!

Meals will be served at the church and some rooms are available in private homes. For those who prefer, good motel accommodations at special rates are available nearby. A car load of men from your church sharing expenses will make this an inexpensive weekend of inspiration, education, fellowship and fun.

See you in Lanett!

A. B. Snell, president

Rudolph Starling Licensed

On Sept. 15 a Service of Licensure in the East Alabama Association was held in the United Church of Phenix City for Mr. Rudolph Starling. Association officers and ministers present were the Rev. Olin Sheppard, Dr. A. R. Van Cleave, the Rev. Charles W. Bell, Dr. John B. Crutcher, and the Rev. James Dollar.

Mr. Starling is chairman of the Board of Deacons for United Church.



PF DISTRICT ORGANIZED

Sardis Church, with able cooperation of its pastor, the Rev. William Taylor, royally entertained the young people of North Georgia on Sept. 21. An all-day meeting was held with V. R. Dobson, SEC president of PF, and Patsy Yancey, recording secretary, as guest leaders.

The following officers were installed by V. R. Dobson, left to right: Pete Sanford, president; Rev. Wm. Taylor, adult advisor; Gale Hinton, vice-president; Dianne Dial, secretary - treasurer; and Jimmy Henderson, who will edit a monthly news sheet for the group.

JAMES DOLLAR DIRECTS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

The new director of the Chattahoochee - Tallapoosa area Junior Achievement program is James O. Dollar of Langdale, Ala. Mr. Dollar has served as an advisor, and has been in contact with the JA program for several years. After a training period in Atlanta under the Regional Representative, Marvin L. Butts, and consultation with new advisors in Opelika and Roanoke, Mr. Dollar will begin a recruitment program.

James Dollar is active in the Churchmen's Fellowship of the Southeast Convention, the Church Builders Club, his local church, and is a licensed minister in the East Alabama Association, serving in the Forest Home Church near Roanoke.

CHURCH VOCATIONS

A Church Vocations Conference will be held at Southern Union College on Dec. 27-29, sponsored by the SEC Christian Education and Ministry and Churches Committees and the SEC Pilgrim Fellowship.

Young people from age 12 up to those now attending college who are interested in church vocations are invited to attend. Excellent speakers and group leaders are being obtained, and additional information on leaders and program will be going out both through the mail and in the November issue of SOUTHEAST NEWS.

Save the date and watch for more information.

Annie R. Campbell

An Urgent Appeal

According to W. P. Ingram, chairman of the Board of Trustees of Southern Union College, it has been voted by the trustees to proceed immediately with the construction of a permanent home for the college president. On Jan. 1 Walter A. Graham will assume his duties as president of the college and there is no house available in the town of Wadley. All college facilities are taxed to capacity.

Individuals and churches of the Southeast Convention are urgently requested to make gifts to the college for the construction of the president's home. Any funds for this purpose should be so designated when sent to the college treasurer.

National Representation

The Rev. Miss Annie R. Campbell, Minister of Christian Education for the Southeast Convention, was asked to serve on the committee to plan the program for the Midwinter Women's Fellowship meeting, to be held in Buckhill Falls in January. She went to Chicago the weekend of Sept. 14-15 to attend this planning session, and while there visited with Miss Marguerite Davison.

Mrs. M. B. Williams, national WF president, who is from Newport News, Va., presided and Misses Lillian Gregory and Lucile Frost, national executive secretaries, were present as resource persons for this and other committees which were also in session.

WITNESS TO FAITH

The fund campaign of the CHURCH BUILDERS CLUB for Brookmeade Church (Project 3) is now underway. It opened on Sept. 15 and will close on Dec. 15. Funds received from pledges will be turned over to the church treasurer to be used for payment on the loan.

Today Brookmeade Church in Nashville, Tenn., stands as a witness to FAITH, with a property value of \$65,000 (of course heavily mortgaged), a growing membership, and a program fitted to the life of the community, filling its needs for a liberal church.

First, there was the faith of the small group which began the church that there was a NEED, even in a city with over 400 established churches, for a church of Congregational Christian freedom and liberal views. Second, there was the faith that money could be obtained to erect the building. Third, one man had the faith to lend \$5,000 to purchase materials needed for the building. Fourth, the faith in the rightness of the project stimulated and encouraged the members during the actual building of the church.

Fifth, there was the faith of the lender that in the Southeast Convention there were at least 1,000 people who believed in the need of church extension so strongly that they would be willing to contribute \$5.00 each through the Church Builders Club to repay his \$5,000 so that Brookmeade Church could go to a bigger, better and

That glow of faith burns as brightly as ever in the hearts of the officers and trustees of The Church Builders Club — that just as you helped to build Douglas and Tifton Churches you will help Brookmeade Church and we can go on helping to build more Congregational Christian churches where they are so urgently needed. The CBC representative in your church will contact you soon to receive payments of pledges and to enlist others as members.

Will you be ready for him?

CHURCH BUILDERS CLUB ANNUAL MEETING

At Lanett Church,
Lanett, Alabama
Nov. 17, 1957
2:30 p. m.



ODELL YANCEY

Interim Moderator Elected

For the first time in the history of the Southeast Convention, a woman presided at a meeting of the Board of Directors when, on Sept. 24, Mrs. Arnold Slater, Moderator-elect, presided in the absence of the Rev. Collie Seymour.

Since Mr. Seymour has moved from the Southeast Convention, he has resigned as Moderator. Ordinarily the Moderator-elect would immediately assume this responsibility. However, Mrs. Slater is president of the SEC Women's Fellowship and requested that she not be expected to take over the duties of Moderator until after the annual meeting in 1958.

This courtesy the Board of Directors very willingly granted to Mrs. Slater, and since this left a vacancy which the Board is empowered to fill during the interim between annual meetings of the Convention, Mr. Odell Yancey, past Moderator, was unanimously elected to fill the unexpired term of the Rev. Seymour as chairman of the Board of Directors and Moderator of the Southeast Convention.

Delegates to the annual meeting next April 19-20 will be asked to confirm the election during the opening business session.

In accepting the nomination, Mr. Yancey said, "I humbly accept the honor of being your Moderator. Any time I can serve and help I am ready and will do the best I can."

Ecumenical Fellowship

The month of October has been designated "Ecumenical Fellowship Month" for the United Church of Christ. It is hoped that this will be a time for individual members to get to know one another, to join in fellowship, and come to understand the significance of the union and the challenging tasks in which we will unite.

On Oct. 6 we had our first participation as a united fellowship in World-Wide Communion Sunday. On Oct. 13 it has been suggested that the Greeting from the Co-Presidents of the United Church be read at the morning service. Following the theme, "Fellowship in Work and Witness," this is an expression of conviction, testimony and hope.

On Oct. 20, Laymen's Sunday will give lay speakers in local churches an opportunity to point up the place of the laity in the work and witness of the church. On Oct. 27, Reformation Sunday gives an opportunity to acknowledge our "Fellowship in the Protestant Heritage."

The following week is the nationwide observance of United Church Night, with 100 or more fellowship dinner meetings to be held in central locations. Many churches will join with a nearby congregation in their own fellowship dinner. On Oct. 27 or Nov. 3, ministers of the two communions are encouraged to exchange pulpits.

United Church Night Program

Within the Southeast Convention there are few opportunities for observance of fellowship dinners with the Evangelical and Reformed churches. In Birmingham, Ala., and in Nashville, Tenn., the Pilgrim and Brookmeade churches are planning fellowship dinners with the E. & R. churches, and the programs will include showing of the documentary film of the United Synod at Cleveland; brief addresses by speakers from the two constituencies; and showing of the new feature film depicting the enlarged mission of the United Church of Christ.

The feature film will be available for local churches after the special meetings are over.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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SHARE OUR SURPLUS! *Let's Do Better This Year*

In 1956 a total of 186,834,717 pounds of surplus foods (dried milk, butter, cheese, wheat, corn, beans, etc.) were distributed to millions of hungry people in 33 different countries through the SHARE OUR SURPLUS program of Church World Service. Congregational Christians through their Service Committee contributed \$143,719 to this program. Every dollar contributed sent 254 pounds of food overseas! In this particular activity of CWS, our support surpassed that of any other denomination. The Service Committee's own projects overseas shared generously in the actual distribution of this much needed food.

During November, as in the past several years, Church World Service sponsors a nation-wide Share Our Surplus appeal, which is climaxed at Thanksgiving. This year the Missions Council will again have a variety of materials on SOS available for use in local churches. EVERY MINISTER will receive a sample packet of these with an order blank. Order your SOS materials early!

PROJECT OF THE MONTH

How many magazines do you receive in your home each month? What do you do with them when you have finished reading them? You can make them last much longer and serve a real need if your church decides to participate in a Friendly Service Project designed to share magazines with our friends overseas. And if you do not have used magazines to share, you can participate in this project by providing subscriptions to good magazines.

Here are some of the many requests that have come from American Board missionaries:

1. Miss E. Marie Crosby, Hospital do Dondi, C. P. 7, Bela Vista, Angola, Portuguese West Africa, has asked for used copies of "Woman's Day" or other supermarket magazines. Miss Crosby is a social worker among women patients at the large mission hospital and TB Sanitorium.

2. Dr. E. C. Riggs, Kilanjunai, P. O. via Salaigraman, Ramnad District, south India, has requested household magazines full of colored pictures and medical journals of all kinds. Dr. Riggs, who is doing village public health work, has many Indian colleagues and friends who enjoy this contact through magazines with a different sort of world.

3. Mr. Richard Fagan, Southern Christian College, Midsayap, Cotobato, Philippines, would like subscriptions and used copies of "Reader's Digest" and farm magazines, and used copies of "National Geographic."

4. Mrs. Frederick Shepard at Aleppo College, Box 287, Syria, would like to receive copies of "Good Housekeeping," "Seventeen," "Parents," "Jack and Jill," "Humpty Dumpty," for girls at the high school to use as reference in classes.

There are other missionaries who have asked for magazines; Miss Marjory Martin, 287 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y., will send you a complete list. You may send magazines to the above addresses at PRINTED MATTER RATE which is 2c for first ounce, 1½c for each additional 2 ounces. Weight limit is 6 pounds, 9 ounces. Wrap magazines so they look like magazines with ends exposed, and mark PRINTED MATTER clearly on outside of packages. Under no circumstances show a valuation on printed matter

WHAT DO WE PROMISE?

Do you remember the vows taken when you became a member of the Church? Something about "accepting and confirming a consecration" to God in Christ. Something else about a "promise to pray and work . . . to help in sustaining worship." Then also, a promise "to live with us in Christian fellowship." Next, a confession of faith and a statement, "to unite with the church . . . to promote to the utmost of your power its purity, its peace and its prosperity."

Next, the members of the church you joined welcomed you "into the fellowship." They pledged "our sympathy, our help and our prayers." They prayed — "God grant that loving and being loved, serving and being served, we may be prepared . . . for the perfect fellowship."

Do you notice that not once do we promise always to agree with one another? But, in almost every line it is implied that we do promise to love one another and to preserve fellowship with one another. This means that there is room in your church for disagreements, for differences of opinion and point of view but there is never any room for dislike of one another or for unkindness or for broken fellowship if we do disagree.

It has been said that to love is to earnestly desire to preserve fellowship and to do all in our power to preserve fellowship. It appears to me that this is basically what we promise to do when we join a church. Therefore, if there should come a disagreement in your church, won't you be the first one to make your own position clear and then, without bitterness or attack on any person, do all in your power to preserve the fellowship? It may mean that you won't have exactly your own way in the matter, and it may mean that you'll have to give way, or to apologize, or to compromise in the sense of adjusting. It will never mean sacrifice of conscience.

—Harold N. Skidmore, Supt.
Michigan Conference NEWS

bundles.

The task ahead of us is never as great as the power behind us.

Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God. Matthew 5:9.

The Superintendent's Page

Three months and more have passed since I took up the duties of the superintendency of the Southeast Convention. During that time, in the work of the convention, I have traveled from Pearson, Ga. to Corbin, Ky., from Charleston, S. C. to Nashville, Tenn., from Montgomery, Ala. to New York City. Many of the churches have extended invitations to me to preach at their regular services or for special occasions and I have accepted as many invitations as possible. I have met with other churches to discuss matters of business, plans for building, financial needs, the securing of a minister. It has been an interesting and exciting time for me.

Progress

One of the things that encourages me as I move about the churches of the area is the interest in the progress we are making as a convention. As churches and as church people we look to the day when we, of the Southeast Convention, will be entirely self-supporting and the substantial contributions coming to us from the Extension Division of the Board of Home Missions will be released for use in other places. We know that this goal is in sight if we continue to increase our gifts to Our Christian World Mission.

Many times people ask me what we as a convention are doing. It always gives me a feeling of pride to be able to state some of the things that the convention is doing, because it really means that I am talking about what the churches are doing. The convention serves the churches and is the arm by which the churches reach out to help others as they seek to promote the Kingdom of God.

You have all heard about the summer conferences held in the various areas of the convention this summer. It is a wonderful thing that this form of experience is available for our young people and our families. Much

of the planning and development and promotion of these conferences is done through Miss Campbell of the convention staff. Some of you met the Student Summer Service Workers who conducted Daily Vacation Bible Schools in many of our churches which otherwise would have been unable to have the schools. It is Miss Campbell who plans this program of summer service in connection with the proper committee.

So often it is said that the youth of our land constitute its greatest asset for the future. The same is true for our churches. We need our churches to nurture our young people in Christianity, and in turn they will become the responsible leaders who will support our church work of the future. The work of the Pilgrim Fellowship, our youth group, is increasing in numbers, in program and in value throughout the churches, the associations and conferences, and the convention. How grand it is to see our young people taking the work of the church seriously, seeking to share in our promotion of the Kingdom of God, dedicating their lives to the cause of Christ. If you read the Southeast News and look at the pictures, you know just how much the young people are doing — and how good a photographer Miss Campbell is!

Laymen's Sunday

During October many of the churches will observe Laymen's Sunday, Oct. 20th. And in November there will be a Laymen's Workshop for all the laymen of the convention. There is an article about it in this issue of the News. The women have been ahead of us men in much of the work of the churches. But we are beginning to catch up. We look for the day when there will be as many laymen's groups in our churches as there are women's.

Our Christian World Mission

All of these things, and many others,



REV. JAMES H. LIGHTBOURNE JR.

are taking place because of our generous support of Our Christian World Mission. How about it, is your church sharing in all of this as it ought to? Has your church reached its goal in its giving to Our Christian World Mission this year? Has it signed its pledge for next year and sent it to the Southeast Convention office? We can accomplish great things for God as we work together in our churches, in our associations and conferences, and in our convention.

—James H. Lightbourne Jr.

* * * *

The Superintendent's Calendar

- Sept. 30 - Oct. 2: Superintendents' meeting with Dr. Hoskins, Franklinton Center, Bricks, N. C.
- Oct. 5-19: Association and Conference meetings.
- Oct. 27: Columbus First Church.
- Oct. 29-31: Cleveland, Ohio, national committee meeting.
- Nov. 2-3: Southern Union College Homecoming.

Church News

The BROOKMEADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of Nashville is sponsoring a Cooperative Kindergarten, to begin in October. Plans are to have classes from 9 to 12 on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, with two mothers teaching each day. Enrollment is limited to twelve students, and the program is designed to help both the parent and the child. There will be regular mothers' meetings to make plans, talk over problems, etc. Consultants at these meetings will be Dr. Gus K. Bell, Clinical Psychologist at the Mental Health Center, and Mrs. Samuel Stumpf, who has been active in the Vanderbilt University Cooperative Nursery. The minister's wife, Mrs. Clyde C. Flannery, is coordinating the new venture.

An Adult Bible Study Fellowship was begun in September, meeting at the parsonage at 8:00 p. m. for dessert, with discussion beginning promptly at 8:30.

Robert Baker, student at Vanderbilt Divinity School, is Minister of Education for the church and in charge of the Church School program.

—from the church weekly bulletin
* * *

KNOXVILLE FIRST CHURCH observed Rally Day on Sept. 29 with opening exercises for the entire Sunday School in the church auditorium. Further fellowship was fostered in an outdoor dinner-on-the-grounds Vesper Service at the Kiwanis Fresh Air Farm. A similar prayer meeting supper in August drew around 100 participants.

Congregational Christian students attending the University of Tennessee now have a church home and pastor of their own denomination in Knoxville. Around 25 students attended the buffet supper and initial planning meeting at the home of the Youth Fellowship sponsors, Mr. and Mrs. James Kerr, on the night of Sept. 28.

The Rev. A. Ray Meserve, our new pastor, is finding that First Congregational is considered a down-town church vital in civic life. As guest speaker he gave addresses to Sertoma and Exchange luncheon clubs in September.

The Women's Fellowship has been fully organized and its constitution adopted. Mrs. S. W. Duggan is president. She will welcome all help avail-

able in the new venture.

—Alberta Ahler, reporter
* * *

A very successful Vacation Bible School was held at EVARTS FIRST CHURCH in July under the direction of Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Lasseter, assisted by Mrs. Cora Cox, Mrs. Audrey Cawood Van Pelt and Miss Vera Ruth Pearce. Enrolled were 60 children.

Our pastor made two trips to Montgomery, Ala., during August and September, conducting a survey to ascertain the advisability of beginning a new church there. The Rev. Hugh Lasseter conducted revival services for Rev. Paul McCartt the week of Sept. 23rd in First Congregational Christian Church of South Solon, Ohio.

It was with deep regret the church board accepted the resignation of the pastor on Sept. 12th. The church and community have appreciated the ability and work of Rev. Lasseter and his fine wife, who is truly his complement. Our love and best wishes go with them in their new parish, the First Congregational Church of Hopewell, Va.

The women of the church spent much time in the preparation and operation of a booth at the county fair in September, clearing \$116, plus two tons of coal given the church by Garfield McLain. The ladies won second prize with a flower arrangement. Mrs. Charles Scoville, president of the WMS, planned and directed this project with the women of both societies of the church and friends assisting.

The two WMS societies have been very active during the past year, contributing generously towards the purchase of the new furnace installed in the church and parsonage and towards the OCWM pledge of the church. In addition they participated in Friendly Service projects, many thoughtful deeds within the circles and church and through the Thrift Shop, operated by the church for the benefit of the community.

—Mrs. N. B. Smith, reporter
* * *

LANGDALE CHURCH has planned an interesting sequence of events for the month of October. World Wide Communion Sunday was celebrated on Oct. 6. On Oct. 13 the church observed

Youth Sunday, with Patsy Yancey and James Lasley sharing the preaching hour.

Oct. 20 is National Laymen's Sunday. The choir will be filled with men and Johnny Wilder will preach. Alton Davis will be in charge of the service.

Oct. 27 will be Women's Sunday. The choir will be filled with women, and women will usher too. Mrs. Elinor Lewis will be the preacher.

During Oct. 25 to Nov. 1, the pastor, the Rev. Carroll W. Lewis, will be guest evangelist at the United Church in Phenix City.

On Sept. 6 Patsy Yancey gave an interesting report of Work Camp during the evening service.

Langdale had the largest number of men attending the East Alabama-West Georgia Men's Rally in Roanoke last month. Those from our church attending the national laymen's meeting were: O'Neal Mason, John Wilder, Howard Mason, and the pastor.

Our youth were on the Bob Brandy Bible Quiz TV program again Sept. 14. We tied 8-8 with Fairfax Christian. Those on the panel were Robert Hull, Glenda Birchfield, Sarah Hearn, Shirley Hart, Susan Hawkins, and Nathan O'Neal. Those singing were Ann Williamson, Penny Edge, Nancy Lewis, Janis Hawkins, and Gloria Lasley.

Improvements for the church include a new water cooler and painting the church inside and outside.

We were on radio station WRDL from 9:30 to 10 each Saturday morning in September and will be in October, too.

Our Women's Fellowship was well represented at the meeting in Roanoke Sept. 22. Miss Ellen Hull is president of the East Alabama Women's Fellowship. We also had three speakers on the program: Mrs. Mae Sides, Mrs. Eloise Wilder, and Mrs. Elinor Lewis.

—from church newsletter
* * *

The UNITED CHURCH of Phenix City conducted an Every Member Canvass the last week in September. First, two training sessions for the team members were held during the previous week. On Sunday, Sept. 22, the teams were commissioned at the morning service.

After a basket dinner at the church, the teams called on members during the afternoon and evening. The congre-

gation had been requested to remain at home during this period so the teams might visit and discuss the church obligations of members.

* * * *

The Building and Plans Committee of BIRMINGHAM PILGRIM CHURCH is circulating an ink drawing and scale model of a type of church which is under consideration. They are urging church members to avail themselves of an opportunity to see the model and to state whether or not they like it. The model is on display in the church each Sunday and is being taken to organizational meetings.

Estimates are that the building of the new church can begin next spring, according to the Rev. C. W. Baldwin, minister.

Sept. 29 was designated Promotion Sunday for the Sunday School. A telephone brigade was used to stimulate attendance for World-wide Communion Sunday on Oct. 6. Church attendance has been increasing, with 124 present on Sept. 8.

The Pilgrim Fellowship elected new officers, as follows: Ann Turner, president; Harry Turner, vice-president and treasurer; Marcia Herman, secretary and reporter; Robert Saunders, faith chairman; Gray Plosser, action chairman; Nancy Elmore, fellowship chairman.

—from church newsletter

* * * *

The Rev. A. C. Nelson conducted our revival services at ROANOKE ANTIOCH CHURCH in August. The Rev. S. M. Penn of Richland, Ga., conducted two of the services, at the invitation of Mr. Nelson. Mr. Penn was pastor here for seven years, resigning about six years ago. We received two new members into our church.

Mr. Nelson also conducted revival services at LaFayette Pleasant Grove and Roanoke New Hope churches, assisted by the pastor there, the Rev. Olin Sheppard.

The WMS had its annual picnic at Sharpe's Lake in White Plains with approximately 45 members and members of their families present.

Antioch Church now has four stained glass windows. The first, directly behind the pulpit, was given by the WMS. Additional windows were given by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Collier and family, Mr.

(Continued on Page 8)

Southern Union College

The Southern Union College opened Sept. 15 with the largest enrollment of its 35-year history — 215. Freshmen orientation began Sunday afternoon with both resident and commuting students undergoing a battery of placement examinations on Monday and Tuesday.

Special entertainment features included the traditional picnic supper at Bald Rock, the All-College Mixer and the President's Reception. A campfire vesper service highlighted Sunday evening's activities.

Many new features greeted the incoming students. Pilgrim Hall, the new dormitory for women, was open for occupancy; both Kimball and Beougher Halls, men's dormitories, have been redecorated and a number of items in new equipment have been added.

Faculty Reception

The annual reception honoring the staff and faculty, also the largest group ever assembled for the junior college, was held Sunday afternoon, Sept. 29, in the lounge of Pilgrim Hall.

Hostesses for the occasion were the wives of the local trustees: Mesdames Vernon L. Carter, John R. Harris, John B. Stevenson, Walter Bartlett, Lynn H. Blair, Charles E. Bell, and Trustee Mrs. A. D. Harry.

SUC BISONS

The football team of the college began its second year with a 6-6 tie with Baylor School in Chattanooga. Coach Bentley has a squad of 40 men this year, as against 21 last year, a heavier line and a faster and more experienced backfield. Sports enthusiasts are looking forward to a good season.

Workday For Christ Oct. 19, 1957

Get out the scrub brush, the window cleaner, your car-washing equipment and a cheery disposition. Approach your church members and let them know that all the money you receive goes to the National Pilgrim Fellowship Christian World Mission projects.

PFers all over the nation will be working on Oct. 19 — it is a nationwide project for the young people.

Send your money to the Southeast Convention office, plainly marked "PF Workday for Christ," and it will be sent to the proper national office.

Betty Slater Reports On USF Conference

The largest national United Student Fellowship Conference and Assembly to date was held at Defiance College in Ohio from Aug 27 to Sept. 4. The USF is composed of college students representing the Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed churches, now merged into the United Church of Christ.

"I feel that one of the truly thrilling experiences was the fellowship enjoyed with young people from the East and West coasts, Hawaii, Japan, India— young people of all races and colors— engaged in Christian study and the stimulating direction given by outstanding leaders, both adult and young people," said Miss Slater.

"Special Bible Study was given much consideration, although social problems and theology also had an important place on the conference program.

"The purpose of the meeting was three-fold:

"First, the 160 students were enthusiastic about discussing the nature of Christianity in relation to the intellectual life of the college. The theme of the conference was 'The Student's Vocation — Critical Thinking.'

"The second emphasis was the desire on the part of the students in the Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed churches to make the union immediately effective.

"The third concern was to study the possibility of proposed plans to merge on the college campus with student movements of the Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian U. S. A., Methodist and others, to give religion a greater place in college and community life."

The three study emphases for the year ahead will be 1) Churchmanship, 2) Religion and the Arts, and 3) a Student's Vocation — Critical Thinking.

Miss Slater is from Chattanooga and is a student at the University of Tennessee. Other young people from the Southeast Convention who attended the conference were Miss Denada Cecil of Robbins, Tenn., Gene Watson of Georgiana, Ala., and John Atkinson of St. Petersburg, Fla. All three are students at Southern Union College.

REV. HUGH LASSETER CALLED TO VIRGINIA

The Rev. Hugh Lasseter has accepted a call to serve the First Congregational Church of Hopewell, Va. He resigned his pastorate at Evarts First Congregational Church on Sept. 12. Mr. and Mrs. Lasseter will move to their new field of service early in October.

During his service in churches of the Southeast Convention Mr. Lasseter has served at Antioch Congregational Christian Church of Andalusia, Ala.; Oxford Sardis and Buford Duncan's Creek churches in north Georgia; and the Evarts First Church. He has been active in the program of the Southeast Convention, serving on the Board of Directors, as committee member of various committees, and since March has been chairman of the SEC Survey and Church Aid Committee. Mr. Lasseter has also been active in the South Alabama-NW Florida Association and in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

Mrs. Lasseter served as chairman of Christian Social Action area of work of the SEC Women's Fellowship during the past year, and has managed the Thrift Shop in Evarts and served as her husband's secretary.

APPEAL FOR CLOTHING

Your Congregational Christian Service Committee urgently needs new or used clothing (especially WARM clothing) in good condition, for shipment overseas. Send parcels prepaid to: Congregational Christian Service Committee, 110 East 29th St., New York 16, N. Y.

SEND THEM NOW, SO THEY WILL BE WHERE THEY ARE NEEDED before cold weather sets in!

Clothing which is somewhat worn, or not heavy enough for use overseas, can be sent to thrift houses maintained by colleges and churches, such as the following: Southern Union College Thrift Shop, Wadley, Ala.; Thrift Shop at Pleasant Hill, Tenn.; Thrift Shop at Evarts, Ky.

SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE...

Almost everyone is familiar with the old saying "What's sauce for the goose is also sauce for the gander." In the Southern Convention this saying was tested Sept. 10-12 when the first Ministers' Wives' Retreat was held at Moonelon. The ministers' wives enjoyed two nights and three days free from home duties while the minister-husbands stayed home to keep things going and attend to children.

The program included fellowship, relaxation and exchange of ideas. A discussion of "The Minister's Wife as a Person" was led by Mrs. W. E. Wiseman. Mrs. John Robert Kernodle told "What the Parishioner Expects of the Minister's Wife." A book review by Mrs. MacIntosh provided a cultural lift. Worship was led by Mrs. Henry Harman. "Hat Making" occupied the afternoon sessions — a rewarding and money-saving hobby.

The retreat was sponsored by the Women's Fellowship of the Southern Convention, Mrs. F. C. Lester, president; and Mrs. Fred Register was chairman of the planning committee.

Happy Sixth Birthday To Me !!!

I am your SOUTHEAST NEWS. This issue ends my fifth year and begins my sixth year as your messenger, your servant, your monthly caller with news of the convention, the six conferences and associations, the churches and the people of the Southeast Convention.

There are many voices clamoring in the world today. I am your voice, for I will say what you want me to say when you send me yours news and articles.

PUT ME IN YOUR BUDGET

Most family or church budgets include little for literature or reading matter. I will tell you about the denomination of which you are a part and about the program and progress of the Southeast Convention of which you are a part. I bring information concerning the work of the church in our wide, wide world.

During special meetings, or when a

Church News

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and Mrs. E. L. Carden and family, and Miss Steva Hood and Klein Hood.

A most successful Vacation Bible School was held during the summer with an enrollment of 31 and eight leaders. Each afternoon different women of the community served refreshments to the group.

—Anita K. Williams, reporter

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The revival held July 28-August 2 at WEDOWEE NOONDAY CHURCH was very well attended with four additions to the church. The Rev. Roy Chatham of LaGrange Hillside Church was the visiting evangelist.

Miss Louise Carpenter, formerly of this church and now a teacher in Japan, presented a most interesting program on the religion, customs and education in Japan during the summer. On Aug. 2 she showed many colored slides to friends and visitors at the home of our pastor, the Rev. Bill Traylor.

Mr. Traylor is now attending Southern Union College during the week, and continues to serve the church.

Sunday, Oct. 6, was designated Church Loyalty Day, with record-breaking attendance.

—Kathryn Carpenter, reporter

church sends in a total of one-fourth its membership in subscriptions, you can hire me for one year for \$1.00. This is cheap. It is less than it costs to print me!

I want to take this occasion to thank the 700 people who have hired me as their servant for the past year — who have read me, used me, and (I hope) learned something from me.

Also, I want to thank the faithful ministers and lay people who have spoken a good word for me and encouraged others to use me; the church reporters who have given their time to sending in reports from their churches, or for various meetings held throughout the area. You have added greatly to my effectiveness.

Happy birthday, to me and to you!